VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT VF EDUCATION



What to expect if a student or staff is exposed to someone with COVID-19 (close contact) in a school setting

Is the exposed individual fully vaccinated?*

If YES

- If no symptoms appear, no need to quarantine
- Wear a mask in all public indoor settings for 14 days or until you receive a negative test result
- A COVID-19 test is recommended between 3-5 days after exposure

If NO, then quarantine...

- Following close contact with a member outside your household, quarantine may end:
 - After 7 days with a negative PCR or antigen test performed on or after Day 5
 - After 10 days following exposure
 - After 14 days (preferred)

*Exposed children, without symptoms, who recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months are not required to quarantine or get tested.

How are individuals determined to be "close contacts" in a school setting?

- Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period
- In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3-6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time
- This exception may be applied on school buses if 1) there is a documented seating chart and 2) there is assurance that masks are worn and students remain in assigned seats, either via video monitoring if available, or attestation from the bus driver or monitor
- This exception does not apply to Pre-K students, on playgrounds, in cafeterias, on school buses where the above criteria are not met, or if an adult is infected or exposed

What should I do if my child is quarantined?

- Contact your healthcare provider to ask about getting testing and follow their recommendations
- Keep your child at home and away from others ("quarantine"). Your child should not attend in-person school and should not participate in sports or extracurricular activities or ride public transportation
- Contact your school to discuss remote or virtual instruction options.
 Encourage and support your child to actively participate in classwork and assignments
- Follow your school's quarantine recommendations, please note that a full 14-day period might be required
- Watch for signs that your child may be struggling physically or emotionally. Consult with your healthcare provider or school counseling office for available resources